ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I offer my sincerest gratitude to my guide, Prof. R. S. R. Murthy for his invaluable guidance, expert suggestions, immense patience and kindness to guide and supervise my work. He has been a person whose encouragement and support from the initial to the final level enabled me to complete this work. Without him, this thesis would not have been completed or written. One simply could not wish for a better or friendlier supervisor.

I wish to express my deepest sincere thanks to Prof. A. N. Mishra, Head, Pharmacy Department, The M. S. University of Baroda for providing me the necessary facilities required for the research work.

I would like to express my warm and sincere thanks to Prof. Mrs. Rajni Giridhar, Coordinator, Centre for Post-Graduate Studies and Research in Pharmaceutical Sciences, The M. S. University of Baroda, Shri G. H. Patel Pharmacy Building, Baroda for providing me the necessary facilities for the research work.

I owe my most sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. N. Ganesh, HOD and Senior Scientist, Jawaharlal Nehru Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Bhopal for providing the necessary facilities and guiding me to carry out the animal experiments.

It is an honour for me to thank Dr. Mukul Mathur and Asha mam, Jawaharlal Nehru Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Bhopal for providing the facility and their help to carry out the radiolabelling studies.

I would like to thank Prof. R. D. Patankar, Former Principal, Modern College of Pharmacy, Pune and Prof. Dr. P. D. Chaudhary, Principal, Modern College of Pharmacy, Pune and Management, Progressive Education Society, Pune for allowing me to pursue Ph. D. under QIP Programme.

I would like to thank Prof. Mrs. Krutika Sawant for her motivating talks and encouraging words during my stay at department. I extend my thanks to Cadilla Pharma, Ahmedabad and Sun Pharma Advanced Research Company Ltd. (SPARC), Vadodara for providing me the gift samples of the drug, Etoposide and surfactant, Poloxamer-407 respectively.

I am grateful to the non-teaching staff at Pharmacy department, Faculty of Tech. and Engg., The M. S. University of Baroda, Baroda and Jawaharlal Nehru Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Bhopal for their timely help and cooperation.

During this work, I have collaborated with many colleagues who have helped me with my work in the Department and for whom I have great regard, and I wish to extend my warmest thanks to Vijay, Snigdha, Tushar, Hamsaraj, Neha, Prithviraju, Mukesh, Raju, Kiran and Kaustubh.

I wish to express my special thanks to my friends Menka, Sachin and Anand for their timely help and support.

The financial support provided under the Quality Improvement Programme, run by AICTE, India is gratefully acknowledged.

I am short of words to express my gratitude towards my mother, without whose endless support, help and motivation, this thesis would not have been possible. Her blessings made this dream come true.

I owe my loving thanks to my Husband Sachin and my lovely daughter Sanika. She has lost a lot due to my research work. Without their encouragement, support and understanding, it would have been impossible for me to finish this work. My special gratitude is due to my brother and family members for their loving support.

I also offer my regards to all of those who supported me in any respect during the completion of the project.

Last but not the least, this acknowledgement will be incomplete if I don't mention those animals who sacrificed their lives for my experiments.

MRS. SMITA S. PIMPLE